

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12

OIC-02 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 /128 W

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R 180800Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7556

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3705

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRAD

SUBJ: GATT COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 24: INDIAN WAIVER  
EXTENSION

REF: GENEVA 1681

1. AS WE REMEMBER IT, WHEN WE LAST WEIGHED IN ON THIS GRISLY SUBJECT A YEAR AGO, WE DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS MUCH CHANCE OF GETTING INDIA TO SET THE DATE FOR GETTING RID OF ITS AUXILIARY DUTIES. WE STILL DON'T. THIS TIME, THE INDIANS WILL PROBABLY POINT TO THEIR HEAVY PETROLEUM, FOOD, AND FERTILIZER EXPENDITURES AND THEIR ASSORTED DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. THEY MAY AGREE THAT THINGS ARE STARTING TO BRIGHTEN UP A LITTLE BUT THEY WILL CERTAINLY STONEWALL IF ANYBODY PUSHES THEM HARD FOR A TERMINATION DATE.

2. WE FIRMLY SUPPORT A FOR-THE-RECORD RECITAL OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE INTRODUCTION OF THESE "TEMPORARY" MEASURES AND THE DESIRABILITY OF INDIAN BRINGING ITSELF INTO  
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LINE WITH ITS GATT OBLIGATIONS. WE THINK, HOWEVER, RATHER THAN

WASTING AMMUNITION BY GETTING OUT IN FRONT IN A FRUITLESS CONTEST OVER THESE PICAYUNE AUXILIARY DUTIES, IT WOULD BE BETTER TO EMPHASIZE THE LANGUISHING REFORM OF THE ENTIRE INDIAN TARIFF STRUCTURE. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT INDIAN HAS RELATED ITS SHIFTOVER TO THE BTN AND THE ELIMINATION (OR TRANSFORMATION) OF ITS AUXILIARY DUTIES AND OTHER ANOMOLIES IN ITS TARIFF STRUCTURE.

3. AS WE HAVE OFTEN POINTED OUT, TARIFFS DON'T LIMIT ACCESS TO THE INDIAN MARKET NEARLY SO MUCH AS DOES INDIA'S UBIQUITOUS IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THINGS LIKE AUXILIARY DUTIES IS AN EXERCISE IN THEOLOGY. IF THE HAPPY DAY EVER COMES, AS THE INDIANS KEEP PROMISING IT WILL COME, THAT TARIFFS RATHER THAN A LICENSING BUREAU DETERMINE INDIA'S IMPORTS, A RATIONAL TARIFF STRUCTURE WILL SERVE US WELL. WE THINK THAT WITHIN GATT, OUR EFFORTS SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON URGING THE FUNDAMENTAL REFORM OF INDIA'S ARCHAIC TARIFF STRUCTURE AND CUMBERSOME LICENSING SYSTEM. TO GO AFTER ITS AUXILIARY DUTIES AS SUCH IS TO GO AFTER GNATS WITH AN ELEPHANT RIFLE.  
SAXBE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXTILES, EXPORT QUOTAS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 18 MAR 1975  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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